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Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/043,662	CHAPIN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Jason Prone	3724	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--
 All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment after final filed on 11 April 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,4,5,7-9,21-23,29-32 and 34-37.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 09 January 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with John Labatt on 04 May 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

- In claim 1, the phrase "a machine for detaching the part from a web having a plurality of parts, the machine including a die that includes a die opening through which the detached part passes" has been replaced with --a machine including a punch for detaching the part from a web having a plurality of parts, and a corresponding die that includes a die opening through which the detached part passes--.
- Claim 3 has been canceled.
- In claim 21 the phrase "An apparatus for orienting a part having a curled shape, the part having been detached from a web having a plurality of parts, the apparatus comprising:" has been replaced with --An apparatus for orienting a part having a curled shape comprising a punch for detaching the part from a web having a plurality of parts; a corresponding die that includes a die opening through which the detached part passes; and--.

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- In claim 29, the phrase "An apparatus for orienting a part, the apparatus comprising: a die having a die opening," has been replaced with
--An apparatus for orienting a part, the apparatus comprising:
a punch for detaching the part from a web having a plurality of parts;
a corresponding die having a die opening,--.
- Claim 33 is canceled.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-9, 21-23, 29-32, and 34-37 are allowed.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-9, 21-23, 29-32, and 34-37 are allowable because of the apparatus with a punch, a corresponding die, a duct with an interior sloped side, the interior sloped side and the opposing edge create a first and second opening, and the interior sloped side partially obstructs a first longitudinal side of the work piece while allowing a second longitudinal side of the work piece to pass through the second opening. None of the prior art cited discloses an apparatus that incorporates the use of a punch, a corresponding die, a duct with an interior sloped side, the interior sloped side and the opposing edge create a first and second opening, and the interior sloped side partially obstructs a first longitudinal side of the work piece while allowing a second longitudinal side of the work piece to pass through the second opening allowing the punched work piece to be oriented a specific way through the duct. Therefore, in view of what has been stated above, the claims are allowable over the art of record.

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4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jason Prone whose telephone number is 571-272-4513. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30-5:00, Mon - (every other) Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Allan N. Shoap can be reached on 571-272-4514. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).




Allan N. Shoap
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JP
May 4, 2005